

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 VO-03 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00

INR-10 SS-07 EB-11 SCI-06 SCA-01 USIA-12 RSR-01 /077 W

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R 131518Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 366

S E C R E T MOSCOW 8363

E.O. 11652: XGDS, BY STATUTE

TAGS: CVIS, BTRA, TGEN, TECH, UR, US (AYKAZYAN, EDUARD
ASATUROVICH)

SUBJECT: VISA REFUSAL

PASS SCI AND EUR/SOV

REF: STATE 134645 AND PREVIOUS

1. AT FRENCH NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION JULY 13, D.N. PRONSKIY (CHIEF, FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY) POINTEDLY SOUGHT OUT SCIATT AND ASKED "WHAT IS THE STORY WITH AYKAZYAN'S VISA?" WITHOUT WAITING FOR ANSWER, HE CONTINUED THAT GVISHIANI (DEP. CHAIRMAN, SCST) HAD "HIT THE CEILING" AND WAS VERY DISTURBED (VOLNUYETSA) OVER MATTER. IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER HE WAS STILL QUOTING GVISHIANI OR EXPRESSING HIS OWN VIEW WHEN HE ADDED THAT "IN VIEW OF ALL OUR INCREASING US-USSR CONTACTS, IT IS MOST UNHAPPY SITUATION WHEN SENIOR OFFICER IN USA DIVISION OF SCST SHOULD BE DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA (SIC)." IN VERY OFFICIAL AND UPSET TONE, HE REQUESTED SCIATT TO LOOK INTO MATTER. SCIATT REPLIED ONLY THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE OF DETAILS OF CASE SINCE IT WAS CONSULAR MATTER, AND LEFT IT AT THAT, WITHOUT ANY IMPLICATION THAT HE IN FACT WOULD "LOOK INTO MATTER."

2. AFTER ABOVE POINTS HAD BEEN MADE, PRONSKIY BECAME MORE SOCIABLE AND REMAINDER OF CONVERSATION WAS FRIENDLY, DEALING WITH SOME BILATERAL BUSINESS AND EXCHANGES OF COURTESIES

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BENEFITTING THE OCCASION.

3. DR. BRENNER, WEST GERMAN SCIENTIFIC COUNSELOR, HAD OVERHEARD ABOVE CONVERSATION, BUT APPARENTLY HAD NOT CAUGHT NAME OF INDIVIDUAL INVOLVED. BRENNER LATER TOLD SCIATT PRIVATELY THAT HEHAD FACED SIMILAR SITUATION SOME TIMEAGO WHEN PETROSYANTS CALLED HIM TO DEMAND EXPLANATION FOR VISA REFUSAL OF POPOK, OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR UTILIZATION OF ATOMIC ENERGY. POPOK WAS TO HAVE BEEN HEAD OF SOVIET DELEGATION ON ATOMIC ENERGY TO FRG. AFTER THREATENING TO CANCEL ENTIRE VISIT, SOVDEL EVENTUALLY WENT WITHOUT POPOK. BRENNER SAID THAT FRG REFUSED POPOK VISA, BECAUSE POPOK HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES AGAINST FRG WHEN HE WAS STATIONED IN EAST BERLIN. BRENNER VOLUNTEERED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW DETAILS.

4. BRENNER DID NOT SOLICIT ANY INFORMATION ABOUT AYKAZYAN CASE, AND NONE WAS VOLUNTEERED.
MELENCAMP

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